

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Masaru IDE et al.

Application No.: 10/505,439

Filed: August 24, 2004

Confirmation No. 2310



Group Art Unit: 1734

Examiner: George R. Koch

Attorney Docket No.: 7390/84125

Customer No.: 42798

**RESPONSE TO REQUIREMENT FOR ELECTION/RESTRICTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
Customer Service Window  
Randolph Building  
401 Dulany Street  
Alexandria, VA 22314

Sir:

In response to the Requirement for Election/Restriction dated July 3, 2006, requesting that the Applicants elect one of Groups I or II claims for prosecution on the merits, the Applicants traverse and respectfully submit Group I and II should be combined (re-joined).

Subject to the foregoing traverse, Applicants respectfully elect the following for prosecution in this application:

Group I.       Wherein the production apparatus is controlled by a:

- (1)   heating device, temperature detector and controller (i.e., claim 20),
- (2)   a pressure reducing mechanism.

(Claims 20-27, 39)

Favorable action on the merits is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kendrew H. Colton".

Date: July 28, 2006

Kendrew H. Colton  
Registration No. 30,368

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